



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Rodriguez
Serial No.: 10/786,523
Filed: 02/25/2004
For: Improved Bale Banding Machine and Method
Art Unit: 3721
Examiner: Gerrity

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

This communication is in response to a first office action with mail date of Feb. 23, 2005, in which the Examiner has rejected claims 14, 15 and 20-22 under Section 102(b) as anticipated by Rodriguez '180.

The Examiner further indicates that claims 1-13 are allowed, and that claims 16-19 and 23-26 would be allowable if properly rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

The undersigned certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date below.

APRIL 1/2005
Date

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas C. Saitta".

Thomas C. Saitta